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Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

Chemical Review Committee
Fourteenth meeting
Rome, 11–14 September 2018
Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters: organization of work

Scenario note for the fourteenth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee

Note by the Secretariat

A scenario note developed by the Chair of the Chemical Review Committee, Ms. Noluzuko Gwayi (South Africa), to assist participants in preparing for the fourteenth meeting of the Committee, is set out in the annex to the present note.

* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.14/1.

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Annex

Scenario note for the fourteenth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee

1. The present scenario note is intended to assist participants in preparing for the fourteenth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee.

2. The documents for the meeting have been posted on the website of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (www.pic.int/crc14) and made available to the Committee.

A. Objective and tasks

3. The general objective of the meeting is to complete the work assigned to the Committee by the Convention and the Conference of the Parties. To that end, the main tasks of the Committee are the following:

(a) To finalize the draft decision guidance documents for acetochlor, hexabromocyclododecane and phorate for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting;

(b) To determine whether the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention have been met by each of the notifications of final regulatory action for methyl-parathion and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds, as well as for an additional notification of final regulatory action for hexabromocyclododecane received subsequent to the thirteenth meeting of the Committee,[1] and, if that is the case, to prepare a rationale for the conclusions of the Committee for each of those notifications;

(c) For those chemicals identified in subparagraph (b) above that it recommends for listing in Annex III, to prepare such recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, establish intersessional drafting groups and draw up workplans for the preparation of decision guidance documents.

B. Meeting agenda

4. The provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.14/1) lists the matters before the Committee. Committee members are invited to notify the secretariat before the meeting of any other matters that should be included. The annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.14/1/Add.1) identify issues for discussion under each agenda item and the documents relating to that item.

C. Organization of work

5. The meeting will take place from the afternoon of Tuesday, 11 September to Friday, 14 September 2018. The intersessional task groups will meet in the morning of Tuesday, 11 September 2018.

6. Contact groups and drafting groups will be established as needed throughout the meeting.

7. The meeting will begin at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 11 September with opening formalities in plenary (item 1 of the provisional agenda). The Committee will then adopt the agenda for the meeting (item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda), amended as appropriate, and agree on the organization of work (item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda). A tentative schedule is set out in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.14/INF/2.

8. Under item 3 of the provisional agenda, the Committee will consider the rotation of the membership. A representative of the Secretariat will provide information on the rotation of the membership on 1 May 2018, and on the newly designated members, if any.

[1] By decision CRC-13/2, the Committee at its thirteenth meeting concluded that notifications of final regulatory action for hexabromocyclododecane submitted by Japan and Norway met the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention and recommended that the Conference of the Parties list hexabromocyclododecane in Annex III to the Convention as an industrial chemical.

9. The Committee will then consider the draft decision guidance documents on acetochlor, hexabromocyclododecane and phorate with a view to finalizing them (items 4 (a) (i), (ii) and (iii) of the provisional agenda).

10. Following the report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications of final regulatory action (item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda), the Committee will review the notifications of final regulatory action (items 4 (c) (i), (ii) and (iii) of the provisional agenda). On the basis of its review, the Committee will decide whether to recommend that the Conference of the Parties list any of the candidate chemicals in Annex III to the Convention, establish drafting groups and adopt workplans to prepare draft decision guidance documents for the recommended chemicals.

11. In the case of hexabromocyclododecane, the Committee may wish to review the additional notification received subsequent to its thirteenth meeting and note its decision CRC-13/2 regarding the chemical.

12. Under item 5 of the provisional agenda, on updates to the Handbook of Working Procedures and Policy Guidance for the Chemical Review Committee, the Committee will consider the updates made to section 1.4, on the process for determining evidence of ongoing international trade, and section 2.6, on guidance to assist Parties and the Committee when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention, with a view to adopting these updates.

13. The Committee will decide on the venue and date of its fifteenth meeting (item 6 of the provisional agenda) and consider any other matters (item 7 of the provisional agenda).

14. The report of the meeting is expected to be adopted during the afternoon of Friday, 14 September 2018 (item 8 of the provisional agenda). The Committee will approve the report of the meeting as at the end of the plenary session of the afternoon of Thursday, 13 September 2018, with any amendments that it may consider necessary. Consistent with past practice, the Committee may agree that the section of the report pertaining to the plenary sessions held on Friday, 14 September 2018 will be prepared by the rapporteur, in cooperation with the Secretariat, and incorporated into the final meeting report under the authority of the Chair.

15. Upon the conclusion of the matters before the Committee, the Chair will close the meeting (item 9 of the provisional agenda) on Friday, 14 September 2018.